

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Dennis Wahr et al.

Application No. : 09/870,813 Confirmation No. : 1270

Filed : June 1, 2001

For : CLOSURE DEVICES, RELATED DELIVERY
METHODS AND TOOLS, AND RELATED METHODS
OF USE

Examiner : Gary Jackson

Group Art Unit : 3734

New York, New York 10020
December 18, 2006

Mail Stop 313(c)
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

NINTH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97,
applicants wish to call the attention of the Examiner to the
following documents:

U.S. Patent Document

Inoue U.S. Patent No. 5,171,259 (December 15, 1992)

Sideris U.S. Patent No. 5,284,488 (February 8,
1994)

Erlebacher et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,350,399
(September 27, 1994)

2001) Kleshinski U.S. Patent No. 6,245,012 (June 12,
2001) Schneidt U.S. Patent No. 6,174,322 (January 16,
2001) Marino et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,206,907 (March 27,
2001) Kleshinski U.S. Patent No. 6,245,012 (June 12,
2001) Corcoran et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,656,206
(December 2, 2003)
Beer et al. U.S. Patent Pub. No. 2003/0139819 A1
(July 24, 2003)

Foreign Patent Documents

1993) European Publication No. EP 0362113 B1 (April 14,
2006) European Publication No. EP 1013227 B1 (August 30,

Other Document

European Search Report for EP 05010346 (dated June
22, 2005)

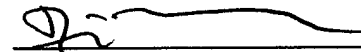
The aforementioned documents are listed on the
accompanying Form PTO/SB/08 (submitted in duplicate). Copies
of the "Foreign Patent Documents" and "Other Document" are
enclosed herewith.

It is respectfully requested that these documents
be (1) fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office

during examination of this application; and (2) printed on any patent which may issue on this application. Applicants request that a copy of Form PTO/SB/08, as considered and initialed by the Examiner, be returned with the next communication.

This Statement is being submitted before the mailing of a first Office action after a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114, which is being filed concurrently herewith. Applicants believe that, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(4), submission of this Statement requires no fee. However, if for any reason a fee is due, the Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 06-1075, Order No. 000293-0088-101. A duplicate copy of the statement is being transmitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted,



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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO				Complete if Known	
NINTH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	09/870,813
				Filing Date	June 1, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Dennis Wahr
				Art Unit	3734
				Examiner Name	Gary Jackson
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	293/088

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		5,171,259	12-15-1992	Inoue	
		5,284,488	02-08-1994	Sideris	
		5,350,399	09-27-1994	Erlebacher et al.	
		6,245,012	06-12-2001	Kleshinski	
		6,174,322	01-16-2001	Schneidt	
		6,206,907	03-27-2001	Marino et al.	
		6,245,012	06-12-2001	Kleshinski	
		6,656,206	12-02-2003	Corcoran et al.	
		2003/0139819-A1	07-24-2003	Beer et al.	

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
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		Country Code ³	Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		EP	0362113-B1	04-14-1993	Sideris	
		EP	1013227-B1	08-30-2006	NIPRO CORPORATION	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. * CITE NO.: Those application(s) which are marked with an single asterisk (*) next to the Cite No. are not supplied (under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(iii)) because that application was filed after June 30, 2003 or is available in the IFW. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		European Search Report for EP 05010346 (dated June 22, 2005)	

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¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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		EP 1013227-B1	08-30-2006	NIPRO CORPORATION	

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		European Search Report for EP 05010346 (dated June 22, 2005)	

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